

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7032

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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FBIS OKINAWA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: KIANGSU PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP

REF: A) HONG KONG 10813 B) HONG KONG 8243

1. KIANGSU'S NEWLY APPOINTED PARTY SECRETARY YANG KUANG-LI (REFTEL A) HAS BEEN JOINED BY A CIVILIAN COLLEAGUE. A SEPTEMBER 16 NANKING BROADCAST IDENTIFIED FORMER CCP STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBER HSU CHIA-TUN AS A PROVINCIAL PARTY SECRETARY. HSU IS A VETERAN CADRE WHO WAS KIANGSU PARTY SECRETARY AND VICE GOVERNOR BEFORE THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION. HE DROPPED FROM SIGHT IN 1967 AFTER REPORTEDLY CALLING OUT 100,000 WORKERS TO TRY TO SUPPRESS THE NANKING RED GUARDS, BUT HE REAPPEARED AS A REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN IN 1970.

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2. HSU'S PROMOTION MAINTAINS THE CIVILIAN-MILITARY

BALANCE IN KIANGSU'S TOP LEADERSHIP, SINCE HE AND
CIVILIAN FIRST SECRETARY PENG CHUNG ARE MATCHED WITH
TWO SECRETARIES WITH PLA BACKGROUND. THE NEW APPOINTMENTS
ARE ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF RECENT MOVES TO STRENGTHEN LEADER-
SHIP IN THOSE PROVINCES, SUCH AS FUKIEN (REFTEL B) AND
CHEKIANG, WHOSE TOP PARTY LEADERSHIP HAS NEVER REALLY
RECOVERED FROM THE SHAKE-UPS OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION.
KIANGSU'S RECENT CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRY, HELD AUGUST 16-31
IN AN ATTEMPT TO SPUR THE PROVINCE'S APPARENTLY SLUGGISH
ECONOMY, MAY WELL HAVE POINTED UP THE NEED FOR A STRONGER
LEADING GROUP.

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